Department of Permits and Development Management 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 Baltimore County, Maryland

In the Matter of Civil Citation No. 67315

Carolyn A. Block 1413 Pleasant Valley Drive

Respondent

## FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW FINAL ORDER OF THE CODE ENFORCEMENT HEARING OFFICER

This matter came before the Baltimore County Code Enforcement Hearing Officer on November 4, 2009 for a Hearing on a citation for violations under the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (BCZR) section 428, failure to remove all inoperative or damaged, disabled motor vehicle from residential property known as 1413 Pleasant Valley Drive, 21228.

On October 2, 2009, pursuant to Baltimore County Code §3-6-205, Inspector Ray Harmon issued a Code Enforcement & Inspections Citation. The citation was sent to the Respondent by 1<sup>st</sup> class mail to the last known address listed in the Maryland State Tax Assessment files.

The citation proposed a civil penalty of \$3,000.00 (three thousand dollars).

The following persons appeared for the Hearing and testified: Tim Block, husband of Respondent and Ray Harmon, Baltimore County Code Enforcement Officer.

After proper consideration of all the evidence and testimony presented, the Hearing Officer finds:

- A. A Correction Notice was issued on September 1, 2009 for removal of untagged/inoperative or damaged/disabled motor vehicles. This Citation was issued on October 2, 2009.
- B. Inspector Ray Harmon testified that a red minivan with no tags is stored outside in the driveway of this residential property. A cover was put on it in September but the car remains stored outside.
- C. Mr. Tim Block, husband of Respondent, testified that his wife recently passed away. He further testified that he will take care of removing the car, and requested an additional thirty days for correction.
- D. County zoning regulations prohibit the outside storage of inoperative motor vehicles on a residential lot. BCZR Section 428.1(A). The outside storage of unlicensed motor vehicles is also prohibited, except for one vehicle per dwelling unit for a period not exceeding 15 days in any calendar year. Section 428.1(B). This vehicle must have valid tags and be operable, or be removed from the property.
- E. Because compliance is the goal of code enforcement, the civil penalty will be rescinded if the violation is corrected within the time provided below.

IT IS ORDERED by the Code Enforcement Hearing Officer that a civil penalty be imposed in the amount of \$200.00 (two hundred dollars).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the civil penalty will be RESCINDED and reduced to zero dollars if the violation is corrected by December 21, 2009.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if not paid within thirty days of billing, the civil penalty as authorized above shall be imposed as a lien upon the property.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the County inspect the property to determine whether the violations have been corrected.

ORDERED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of November 2009.

Signed: ORIGINAL SIGNED

Margaret Z. Ferguson

Baltimore County Hearing Officer

**NOTICE TO RESPONDENT:** The Respondent is advised that (1) pursuant to §3-6-206(g)(2) of the Baltimore County Code, the Respondent may make written application to the Director of the Department of Permits & Development Management within 10 days to modify or amend this order and (2) pursuant to §3-6-301(a), Baltimore County Code, the Respondent may appeal this order to the Baltimore County Board of Appeals within fifteen (15) days from the date of this order; any such appeal requires the filing of a petition setting forth the grounds for appeal, payment of a filing fee of \$150 and the posting of security to satisfy the penalty assessed.

MZF/jaf